



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Blue Dogs Advance Major Element of Fiscal Blueprint**

### *House subcommittee reviews Cuellar performance-based budgeting bill*

Washington, DC – Today, the *House Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization and Procurement* held a hearing to review performance-based budgeting legislation authored by **Representative Henry Cuellar of Texas**. H.R. 2142, “The Government Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act of 2009,” is a critical component of the Blue Dog Blueprint for Fiscal Reform, a 15 point plan championed by the coalition as a way to reduce wasteful and unnecessary government spending, and restore fiscal discipline to the federal government.

“This common-sense legislation will bring to light the efficiency and effectiveness of federal programs. By assessing their performance, we can make more informed decisions on how these programs are funded. This is an essential tenet of fiscal responsibility and good government,” said Representative Cuellar (TX-28). “Americans live by budget principles everyday as they try to get the most for their hard-earned money. This should be a guiding principle in Washington.”

“America’s small businesses make choices every day about how to maximize the effectiveness of often very limited resources. Similarly, the federal government should be making the tough decisions necessary in order to make the most out of every single taxpayer dollar,” said Representative Jim Matheson, Blue Dog Co-Chair for Communications. “The Blue Dogs will continue to champion this commonsense legislation as part of our larger effort to advance elements of our comprehensive blueprint for fiscal reform.”

“The Government Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act of 2009,” authored by Representative Henry Cuellar and fellow Blue Dog Representative Dennis Moore (D-KS), calls for the nation’s federal programs to be assessed at least once every five years to ensure federal taxpayer dollars are being spent in an effective way. Each federal program would be required to submit public performance assessments to determine the effectiveness in meeting established goals and the quality of their management. Also under the bill, annual assessment reports would be made available to Congress in conjunction with the President’s annual budget to provide members of Congress with critical information on federal agencies’ strengths and weaknesses. Several states, including Texas, have successfully set forth similar standards in their state budgets.

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